## Production and Perception of Mandarin Focus Prosody

## Prof. Yu Yin HSU The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

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Time: 4:30pm - 6:15pm (Hong Kong Time, UTC +8)

Venue: Lee Shau Kee Building 302,

**The Chinese University of Hong Kong** 



## **Abstract**

In addition to deciding what to say, interlocutors have to decide how to say it. One of the important tasks of linguists is to model how differences in acoustic properties influence the interpretation of a sentence. In this talk, I present studies that make use of experiments of speech production and perception to investigate how expressions related to specific information packaging, such as information focus, are processed by native speakers and learners of Mandarin. Special attention will be paid to the sequence of "numeral-classifier-noun" in Mandarin, which consists of closely related morphosyntactic units internally, and provides a phonetically controlled environment comparable to previous phonetic studies on focus prominence at the word level.

## Speaker

Dr. Yu-Yin Hsu is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chinese and Bilingual Studies at The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. She got her PhD from Indiana University. She has various works on linguistic theories of syntax and information structure as well as linguistic interface areas using psycholinguistic and computational experiments.